



PEOPLE'S WEEKLY



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Fewer Jobs--Says Big Business

NO WINTER SPORT



Death lurks beneath a peaceful looking carpet of snow in Belgium and these engineers of the U.S. 75th Division are engaging in no winter sports as they sweep a road for covered mines. (U.S. Signal Corps photo via Federated Pictures)



PERSONAL STUFF BY E. E. R.

ALL of us in the C.C.F. remember the story J. S. Woodsworth used to tell about going home at the end of a long day in parliament when another of his resolutions was crushed under the combined vote of the other parties in the house. They were talking about it in the family circle when one of the younger boys piped up to say: "Father, doesn't our side ever win?" Well, it seemed like that for a long time. And to those of us who have been with Woodsworth and Irvine and the other pioneers since the pre-C.C.F. days, and who still remember what it was like to be defeated most of the time, the failure to take a seat in a by-election like Grey North is, in itself, a matter of small moment. But in this case I wish I could convey to other Canadians the depression I feel about the result in Grey North, and the reason for it. It's not because we didn't win the by-election. It's because of what the nature of the decision of the Grey North electors may portend.

The general federal election will be very soon. Its date may be announced before this appears in print. God help Canada if the issue which was dominant in Grey North is the one upon which the general election is decided! Tory reaction in Canada doesn't care a tinker's hoot about whether King or Bracken or Drew is the next Premier of Canada. The few hundred rich men who hold the economic life of this country in their grip will win the election if either Liberals or Conservatives form the next government. And the people will lose. So the game is to get the people of Canada all "hot up" about the conscription issue. Every rotten appeal to prejudice will be made and every explosive emotion ignited. The people must be made "good and mad," some at King, some at Bracken or Drew, all at the C.C.F.

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Choice Is Clear In Election

C.C.F. Wants People in Control—Old Parties, S.C. and L.P.P. for Old Order

"The choice before the people of Canada in the coming federal election is clear," said Elmer E. Roper, provincial leader of the C.C.F., in addressing a public meeting under the auspices of the Edmonton C.C.F. on Tuesday night. Miss Mary R. Crawford, C.C.F. candidate in West Edmonton and Ald. H. D. Ainlay, Candidate for East Edmonton were the other speakers.

"On the one hand are the Liberals with their L.P.P. allies and the Conservatives with Social Credit. These parties all stand for the same thing, the retention of the economic system which brought us poverty and depression before the war and has no promise of anything better after the war," Mr. Roper said.

"On the other hand is the C.C.F. which contends that the people of Canada can control their national income only by controlling the resources and means of production," he said. Far from government controls being an abrogation of democracy, they were in fact the extension of democracy to the

(Continued on Page Two)

114 JOBLESS BUT EMPLOY PRISONERS

CALGARY—While 114 registered unemployed were recorded for January in Medicine Hat, German prisoners of war were being used in three large concerns—Medalta Potteries, Medicine Hat Brick and Tile and a greenhouse company. This was a statement from the president of the Medicine Hat Trades and Labor Council at a meeting Friday, February 9 to the Calgary Trades and Labor Council.

One firm—Medalta Potteries—were employing more than fifty prisoners, it was said. It was suggested by Delegate McDougall that the Labor Council

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DON'T KILL GEORGE

To All Subscribers.

Please check the expiry date of your subscription. To those who have recently renewed and the date has not been extended, rest assured that it will be as soon as possible.

To those who have not renewed, won't you please do so today. Otherwise George has to do it. Poor George! A lot of us are letting George do it. Poor, poor George.

DON'T KILL GEORGE!

ROPER DEMANDS SERVICE MEN GET SEATS IN HOUSE

Commenting on a statement by the provincial government to the effect that the representatives of the armed forces who were elected in the recent vote may not be permitted to take their seats in the 1945 session, Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A., provincial leader of the C.C.F. on Tuesday expressed the hope that Wing Cmdr. Colborne, Captain Provise and OPO Ward may be permitted to take their places in the House, even if it is necessary to modify some of the regulations imposed by the government.

Mr. Roper was critical of the whole government procedure in taking the vote. His statement follows:

"Announcement that the representatives of the war services recently elected to the Alberta legislature may not be permitted to take their seats in the coming session, is just the sort of thing that might have been expected from a procedure that has been characterized by government bungling from beginning to end.

Little Thought

"The decision to have three special members elected was made hurriedly as a pre-election move last summer and little thought appears to have been given to the regulations governing the vote. This resulted in:

"1. Some of the men in the services who were among those best

(Continued on Page Eight)

Coldwell Is Alarmed By Predictions

Claims Survey Shows Plans For Sharp Reduction Working Force

SCORES SECRECY

That a government survey of Canadian firms employing 200 or more persons had revealed that private enterprise contemplates an alarming reduction in its working force after the war, was claimed by M. J. Coldwell, national leader of the C.C.F., in a statement issued in Ottawa last week.

Mr. Coldwell scored the government for its failure to make the result of the survey public. "In my opinion it is essential that the nation know fully what the post-war prospects are for Canadians in and out of uniform," the C.C.F. leader said.

Mr. Coldwell's statement follows: "I have definite information that more than a month ago the Reconstruction Committee of the Cabinet had before it a report on employment prospects by private enterprise in the post-war. I am also informed that after receiving this report, the Cabinet ordered complete secrecy with regard to its contents.

Alarming Reduction

"My information is that the Labour Department undertook a comprehensive survey of all concerns employing 200 or more persons at the present time. The results of the survey indicate clearly that private enterprise contemplates an alarming reduction in its working force after the war. (Continued on Page Five)

INVESTIGATE NEW SASK. INDUSTRIES

REGINA—The Saskatchewan government's new Department of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation is now ready to tackle its problems in a big way. Late last week 26 members of the reconstruction and rehabilitation division moved into their new quarters in the Normal School building, where they will occupy most of two floors.

The Investigation Laboratory, under the direction of C. Gower, has been set up in the basement, and is already delving into various problems concerned with the development of industries based on the province's natural resources. Possibilities of paint manufacture, the transmutation of softwood into hard wood, perfection of processes in the manufacture of cleaners and water softeners, are among the problems that will be given immediate attention.

Department executives are keenly interested in plans to establish the western branch of the National Research Council at Saskatoon, action on which is expected shortly. The government department will work in close co-operation with the NRC western branch, as well as with University of Saskatchewan researchers seeking through its pilot plants to shorten the gap between research discoveries and actual industrial operation.

"NOW YOU SEE IT... AND NOW YOU DON'T!"



The Saskatchewan Seed Grain Story

By the HON. CLARENCE M. FINES
Provincial Treasurer, Government of Saskatchewan

A NATIONAL disaster struck Canada late in 1937. It was the drought in Saskatchewan, coupled with a searing sun which stripped thousands of acres of farmland bare of seed and food crops. The drought climaxed eight years of depression—a losing fight against wind, grasshoppers, rust, dust, and rock-bottom prices.

The result was no crop, not even a bushel of grain in some areas. Seed for next year, seed to start once more the laborious process of making a living had to be borrowed—and at any cost. There was no alternative. It could have been given to the Province by the Dominion as mutual aid—but it wasn't.

Before Them All—the Painful Fact

The farmer appealed to his municipality and the municipality negotiated with the banks. The banks agreed to lend providing that some agencies—besides the bankrupt municipalities, would go good for the loan. Before them all was the painful fact that the farmer would be tortuously hard put to repay.

The provincial government offered to stand behind the bank loans. The banks wanted to know who would stand behind the provincial government. The Dominion government agreed to be the ultimate guarantor.

The total loan in 1938 was 19 and a half million dollars, interest at 4 per cent.

Here was the do-nothing answer to the farmer's plea for help—a mortgage on his future earnings and on his hopes for a decent way of life.

Every Year—This Resolution
The farmer resolved to find a better solution to his plight. Every year since 1938, he and his fellows have reconfirmed their resolution through the Association of Rural Municipalities and the United Farmers of Canada.

This was their demand—that the seed grain loan be paid on a fifty-fifty basis, half by themselves as individuals, half by the



HON. C. M. FINES

underwriting governments acting on behalf of the Canadian people as a whole.

They were prepared to carry the brunt of this national disaster. They have never felt that it was fair to make them carry its entire weight.

Then the farmers in 1944 elected a provincial government which believed their stand just. This government, now the provincial guarantor of the loan, undertook to collect 50 per cent of the seed grain debt from the farmer and to negotiate with the federal government for an equitable settlement of the rest of it.

Meanwhile the Dominion government paid off the banks and itself became the creditor of the Saskatchewan farmers with regard to the seed grain loan. It was now in a position to grant an even break to the farmers of Saskatchewan—the fifty-fifty settlement for which they had so patiently petitioned these last six years.

Ottawa's decision was "payment in full." The fifty-fifty proposal to share the cost of a national catastrophe had been rejected.

Mutual Assistance is a Right
The moral significance of this stand is clear. It means that the

people of Canada as a whole, as represented by the Dominion government, take no responsibility for the completely helpless and bankrupt plight of the people of one of the constituent provinces.

As Canadians we are glad to share in the cost of giving billion-dollar gifts to Britain, but refuse aid in the amount of ten millions to some of our own people.

The people of Saskatchewan believe that the principle of mutual assistance should be exercised within the brotherhood of provinces as well as within the brotherhood of nations.

The very of "repudiation" raised by the Dominion government authorities is cheap, irrelevant and libellous.

In the first place, the province of Saskatchewan is not the debtor; but has stepped in as the protector of the debtor—the farmers and municipalities—against a creditor deaf to any appeal beyond the pound of flesh legalities.

In the second place, the Saskatchewan government offered to give its Treasury Bills (T.B.'s) for the total amount and to pay 50 per cent of the principal in cash, as collected, at the rate of not less than two million dollars a year.

This offer was refused. Rather than permit a statement, however, the Regina government forwarded to the Dominion government Treasury Bills for the full amount of the debt.

This is exactly what Ottawa accepted from other provincial governments and from the previous Liberal administration of Saskatchewan, in respect of debts arising from the national emergency of the "thirties."

The People Demand It
The government of Saskatchewan adheres to its original stand as a matter of social principle and as an expression of the repudiation of the wishes of the people of this province.

In doing so, it is confident that the people of Canada do not wish to bankrupt the future of this province. The fifty-fifty proposal would help Saskatchewan to meet its current social needs, prepare against adversity in the future and make its contribution to the general welfare of the nation.

Why has the Dominion government chosen to treat this provincial government differently from other administrations, and just at this time? We can only believe that it hopes thereby to kill the progressive spirit of the people of Saskatchewan and fatally embarrass the government they have elected to represent them.

Asks Governments To Provide Homes For Returned Men

Calling upon the federal, provincial and municipal governments to co-operate in providing suitable permanent housing accommodation for returned veterans, the Home Protective Association at a recent public meeting also asked that such homes be made available at such reasonable price and terms as would enable returned men to purchase them.

In order to encourage people to share their homes with those in need of accommodation, the association also went on record as requesting:

"That all home owners prepared to offer such 'shared accommodation' be asked to register such accommodation with voluntary committees, located in various districts throughout the city, who would co-operate as clearing stations for such home owners and prospective tenants; and that any such letting be subject to the ordinary law of Landlord and Tenant of the Province; such committees to suggest what rate of rent would be appropriate in each case, but all other provisions of such letting to be determined by the respective parties themselves."

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Choice is Clear

(Continued from Page One)

onomic life of the country, he contended. What big business was calling "Government interference" during the war, he claimed was in reality the exercise for the first time of a measure of democracy in the control of the resources and production of the country.

"We are now producing huge quantities of goods in Canada. Our market for the most part is our own use for war purposes of what we produce. After the war we can continue production at a high level and find our market in our use of what we produce, to give every Canadian a high standard of living," the C.C.F. leader argued.

Miss Crawford
Dealing with the socialization of finance, Miss Mary R. Crawford said the real issue was full production for human welfare. The people themselves must take control of that which restricts production and exploits the people, she said. A high level of investment in production was necessary to distribute mass purchasing power and private enterprise showed no signs of being willing to maintain production. Under private enterprise people are not employed until businessmen see an opportunity for profit which would encourage them to expand. They seek the opportunities contracting in 1928 and so we got the depression. Miss Crawford contended that it was the duty of government to make banks and other financial institutions behave in the interests of humanity. What is required, she said, is national planning of production and national planning of investment to support that production—this was what the C.C.F. proposed to do. The old parties could only provide social security by borrowing from the financial institutions and piling up huge debts but they were not willing to provide for a solid economic base on which to build security.

Ald. Ainlay
"The business leaders of Canada are lulling the people into a false sense of security that private enterprise can and will give employment," Ald. Ainlay told the meeting in speaking on the Labor plank in the platform. "But," he warned, "if we travel the same old road we will just as surely feel the same old bumps." He showed that industrial and financial leaders in Canada have not shown any indication that they have worked out a new formula to meet our needs. Most of our apparent prosperity during the war had been due to better prices for farmers and higher wages for workers, but private enterprise had made no plans to continue this state of affairs in the post-war period. In fact a recent government survey indicated that industries were planning retrenchments in so far as workers were concerned; they had nothing to sug-

RAISES \$25 FOR C.C.F.

MODISTE C.C.F. Club has forwarded \$25.00 to the C.C.F. office, proceeds of a whistle drive and raffle held at the home of V. Anderson. \$12.50 has been allocated to the Radio Fund and \$12.50 for the Victory Fund.

gest to take care of the 2,000,000 workers who would be looking for peace time employment.

As a first measure the C.C.F. proposed a Federal Labor Code to set minimum standards while leaving the provinces the power to set higher standards. The federal code would deal with such matters as maximum hours of labor, minimum wages, equal pay for equal work, vacations with pay, compulsory collective bargaining, etc. One had only to survey Saskatchewan's new labor code to realize that the C.C.F. meant what it said.

Ald. Ainlay contended that when Canada has its largest industries socialized and its financial control also in the hands of the people with the workers and farmers provided with an adequate return, no worker need fear the future but look forward with confidence to a fuller and more pleasant life.

Vocal selections were given by Clement Schreoter accompanied by Miss Mary Fennell, pianist. President Art Thornton chaired the meeting.

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IT'S A TRAP

The Canadian Communist who prefers to be called Labor Progressive, loses his arguments for collaboration with the Liberal administration on three points:

1. Liberals are more progressive and democratic than the Conservatives.

2. The people of Canada are not ready for Socialism.

3. Capitalism can be so modified by social security measures as to give the working people of Canada a higher standard of life at least for a short period.

Because the C.C.F. does not agree with these premises he bitterly attacks the C.C.F. as a reactionary movement and lashes out in C.C.F.-baiting to a point of nausea.

The C.C.F. answer to these three contentions are as follows: Our experience with both Liberal and Tory administrations of private capitalist economy fails to convince us that there is any appreciable difference between the two kinds of capitalist administrations. During their terms of office, both provincially and federally, neither administration has taken any fundamental steps to remove the causes of unemployment and poverty. Both governments serve the Big Business interests first and dish out only concessions calculated as a minimum necessary to keep the masses from open revolt. Both administrations rely on police force to quell open demonstrations against the effects of the system. Both administrations use the state apparatus to break strikes and to intimidate the worker.

Only when joining their mock battles for political power do either one throw out a few extra leaves to bribe the elector. Any worker residing in Ontario for the last two years under the Tory Drew administration will tell you that there has been no appreciable change in the effects of the administration of the affairs of the province from that of Liberal administration preceding it. Both administrations claim to have the people's interest at heart, both stand on guard for special privilege. So what?

The second contention is that the people of Canada are not ready for Socialism. That's obvious. If they were ready for it, then we would have Socialist administration in effect. The C.C.F. believes that the people of Canada must be educated and organized for Socialist policies by a Socialist government. The C.C.F. was organized for that purpose 13 years ago. The efforts of the C.C.F. during those years have convinced a lot of people in Canada that Socialism is the only alternative to capitalism for permanent peace and prosperity for the common people it is to be achieved.

It may take another 13 years to convince sufficient number of Canadians of this simple Marxian truth. It may not take half as long. We don't know. But we do know that unless such a campaign of organization and education is carried on by some Socialist organization the prospects for Socialist government are postponed indefinitely. So, we carry on in sincere conviction the work of enlightening our fellow citizens for a better way of life. We take care from both right and the so-called left. We are not discouraged

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 250 words in length.

QUESTIONS "PARITY PRICES"

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: The policy of politicians and propagandists first of all is to make excuses and deny any and everything that might be fact or might get some break for the underdog such as Socialism. Might I ask these parity price men how they will get parity prices unless Socialization of our resources is implemented or made lawful. So much wasted time blowing about parity prices is pure maloney and some of these days the farmers will find that out, maybe more to their regret than in the days of the U.F.A. power moguls.

Regarding Mr. Milner's objection to a letter in the Saskatchewan Social Credit paper, "Western Producer" was Mr. Milner is one of our honest and keen workers and analysts. He doesn't waste time on false accusations.

In view of the partiality shown to certain politicians I would like to suggest to my C.C.F. friends that each and every one of us refuse to renew our subscriptions to this Western Producer. If not now in Saskatchewan very shortly the C.C.F. will have a very fine paper of their own. Therefore if we have any dollars to spare why not use them for constructive work or use such as our radio funds.

J. A. B. Hilliard, Alta.

MAKES CLAIM FOR PROHIBITION

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: I quote from the Alberta Temperance Review, December, 1944:

"Seventh Victory Loan a huge success. Drink Bill reaches an all-time high."

Alberta's Pride—Alberta citizens loaned to the government \$54,990,600. To get back every cent with interest and have the thrill of patriotic partnership. This will help to win the war.

Alberta's Shame—Alberta citizens loaned for booze \$23,833,951. To get nothing back but to have lessened efficiency and a lowered quality of life. This helps Hitler to delay victory.

For the year 1944 the liquor profits were \$5,356,105. Take that from \$23,833,951 that Alberta had to pay for booze to get the profit it left Alberta in the hole \$18,477,846. If we had prohibition we could have saved the whole liquor bill. Some temperance writers claim for every dollar paid for

or disappointed, because we expect it.

To the third argument that it is possible to have a short term period of prosperity by collaborating with the Liberals, our answer is that short term prosperity is not good enough. After every armed conflict there is a short term period of prosperity, because of the need to repair the wreckage of war and to satisfy the backlog of consumers' goods. We shall have it anyway—without collaboration with the master's henchmen. So, why collaborate?

The Communist knows full well that the capitalist system carries within itself the seeds of its own destruction so, why did the people think the system can be made to function by reforms. Let us be honest and admit that under capitalism certain reform measures can give us another long armistice—until the little boys grow up to be soldiers. Then—another war. No, we are not prepared to make another generation of boys for a short term "prosperity." We must strive for the abolition of a system which makes war and poverty inevitable. That's old Chamberlain motto: Peace in our time. He, too, collaborated for a short time peace for new Socialism for a permanent peace. We shall not collaborate with the champions of capitalism. It's a trap.

liquor it costs the people 80 cents for crime, sickness and disease that liquor is responsible for. I put it at 50 cents. This would make liquor cost Alberta for 1944, \$35,750,926. I will try to point out what could be done if this money was used in the industry. There is nothing that could do so much for the well-being of such a large percentage of Alberta's population as the housing problem, and the \$35,000,000 that liquor cost Alberta in 1944 could buy approximately 11,666 homes at \$3,000 each.

W. R. BALL, Edmonton.

STAB IN THE BACK

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: I was astounded to read the item in last week's People's Weekly about Hon. Solon E. Low favoring the taxation of co-operatives in a speech in Ottawa. The words used by him, according to the report of his address quoted from the Ottawa Citizen, were exactly those used in the representations made by all the opponents of the co-ops who appeared before the Royal Commission on taxation.

It is one more bit of evidence of the all-out manner in which Low has become a willing mouthpiece of Big Business in its drive to maintain its hold on the economic life of Canada. Its attack on the co-ops is part of that drive.

Did Mr. Low think western people wouldn't hear about his perfidious stab in the back of co-operators?

DAIRY POOL CO-OPERATOR, S. Edmonston.

ET TU BRUTE!

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: So the Hon. So Low has done another little chore for his backers. While the farm co-operatives are battling with their backs to the wall to stave off the assault of the big interests that are seeking to destroy them, Low has his little piece in Ottawa where he thinks it will do the most good for the "free enterprise" Big Shots whom he serves. And he tried to kid us in that famous Medicine Hat speech that his party could get to destroy the co-ops "with no strings attached!"

The Big Shots know their stuff. They know that if they can use men like Low to destroy the people's co-operative efforts, their "contributions" to their political servants will come back to them fourfold when their continued exploitation of the people.

Alberta co-operators who have supported Low and his associates politically, must feel something like Julius Caesar when he was stabbed by Brutus. Et tu Brutus!

H. G. HUGHES, Calgary.

NO JOBS TODAY

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: People are becoming concerned over the unemployment situation developing in the south of the province. There are some hundreds unable to find a job; one man reported 250 were ahead of him when he applied. Those inquiring at Selective Service are being told, "No, we have no jobs, but if you like we can find you a place in the woods." Does this mean that men are already being sent to think disguised relief camps to keep them off the streets, and the voters lists for the coming election? As one of them said after waiting for some days, "Well, I guess I'll go to the camp, after all I've got to eat somewhere."

When the federal policy of "letting George do it" shows that George is both unable and unwilling to find any jobs, is it not time that we turned out the government that won't, because Big Business says no, and replace it with C.C.F. government that will, because the people say yes.

J. P. GRIFFIN, Macleod, Alta.



By H. ZELLA SPENCER

AS I was commenting, we all find it very difficult at times to find how others have arrived at the conclusions they have. I mentioned that I could not see how some considered the C.C.F. irreligious when I thought it was forthright on the concept of the brotherhood of man which is, the very essence of the Christian religion.

Another thing I cannot understand how it is that some consider it will do away with the will of the people and be but a dictatorship. There are those who make much of this and strange to say there are many supporters of this present government who make much of it being an expression of the will of the people as they put it. But let us do a little soul-searching.

One achievement of which this government is proud and which is one that is noted by so many is the formation of the Larger School Areas. The plan for this was laid by the previous government but so much protest was heard that they did not go forward with it. This government, however, rode in on the wave of a \$25.00 popularity and with such a majority they felt

safer and proceeded to go on with it. Protest and protest was heard from people here and there and everywhere but the voice of the people was ignored.

When it came to the formation of the Larger Municipal Districts, was that the will of the people? Well, in our own area when the representatives of the people voted regarding the matter everyone but one was against such a formation until after the war. But again the will of the people was ignored, and the Larger Area formed.

A Federal Association, of which I heard, decided, I believe, to finance through the banks as there was nothing in the Act to prevent this. But what was the result? The matter was dangled with and finally they were informed they would have to finance through the medium the government desired and not that of the directors.

So taking a little thought and remembering what has been done, does it not behoove some governments and people to refrain from their boogey-cries that the will of the people which has always been respected will be suddenly ignored under a C.C.F. government?

SURPRISED AT LEE'S CONCLUSIONS

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: Having read Mr. C. E. Lee's article, "A New World of Plenty," I was surprised at Mr. Lee's summary. I'm sure you will agree that it's very easy to pick any system to pieces, we could all write oodles of criticism on the present system, but what I'd like to read, is something constructive to take its place. My idea would be to take the price tag off everything we do. If people can work and produce the goods and services of the world, why then everyone should have access to these goods, irrespective of price tags. Let's read something constructive. In conclusion, I still insist that it's very easy to see behind, but let's hear something from the fellow who can not only visualize the future, but put it on paper in black and white.

W. G. HOBBS, Marshall, Sask.

SHOCKED AT LOW STATEMENT

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: It is just about one hundred years ago that the people in the little town of Rochdale, England, started the modern co-operative movement. The "Equitable Society of Rochdale Pioneers" was formed to protect the "little" people of that day against the aggression of big business control and power.

The rules that those people laid down at that time, and which have been adhered to ever since, makes it impossible for any few people ever to get control of a co-operative. Co-operatives are, and must remain, the weapon of the people as a whole, to be used against monopolies and combines.

In Canada, co-operatives are one of the weapons the people have built up to fight against exploitation by the "50 Big Shots" we heard so much about in 1935.

It was, therefore, with a sense of shame that I read a few days ago that the Honorable Solon E. Low, leader of the Social Credit party, stated in Ottawa that he was in favor of taxing co-operatives, and thereby putting them out of business.

It is hard for anyone to believe

that a leader of any political party could come "out of the West" and be so anxious to win the support of the monopoly Grain Trade, the monopoly Mining Trade, etc., as to sell himself so completely to those "50 Big Shots." Adolph Hitler was the only other party leader who ever stood openly for muzzling the co-operatives: he also won the support of Big Business.

GORDON L. CLARK, 11711 - 89 St. Edmonton.

NOT ONLY JUDGES' WIDOWS

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: The Edmonton Bulletin of Tuesday, Feb. 13th, 1945, carried a report headed, "Widows of Judges Not Provided For." Deplorable instances of widows of Canadian judges being forced to find work because they were left without an adequate source of funds were cited. It seems that legislation introduced at the last session of Parliament to provide pensions for widows of justices of the higher courts and country judges failed to include those who were widows previous to the introduction of such legislation.

The Canadian Bar Association is fighting for recognition for judges' widows. The C.C.F. is fighting for recognition for all widows. To the daily press the Canadian Bar Association is O.K. The C.C.F. is a dangerous gang of socialists imperiling the nation.

Wake up Canada, we have a job to do. The C.C.F. fights for judges' widows as well as laborers' widows for under free enterprise it would seem that judges are no better able to provide for their dependents than is the ditch-digger or farmer. Those judges must have slipped somewhere, the rascals!

WM. SYKES, Edmonton, Alberta.

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PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

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LOW STATEMENT INEXCUSABLE

ALL the spokesmen of the interests which are out to destroy the farmers' co-operatives talk the same language. The *Western Producer* quotes the brief of the Regina Board of Trade to the Royal Commission on the taxation of co-operatives as being typical.

"The time has now come," says the Regina statement, "when all types and classes of business and industry should be placed on the same basis of equality. Common sense and fair play demand every business, whatever type or class, should bear its fair share of the common burden of taxation; there should be no favors or discrimination."

As the *Western Producer* shows, possibly this kind of an attitude can be expected from the Regina Board of Trade. It is mostly made up of managers of branch banks, branch insurance, loan and financial offices, branch machinery houses, branch wholesale houses and even branch retail stores, all of whom are the hired men of Canadian big business and finance whose head offices are in Montreal or Toronto. These concerns have been exploiting the Canadian people in every way and they are determined to stop the onward march of the people toward co-operative activity. That is understandable.

But the statement of Hon. Solon E. Low in his address in Glebe Collegiate in Ottawa last week is something else. Here is how the *Ottawa Citizen*, which is a supporter of Social Credit, reports Mr. Low's words:

"Mr. Low indicated that Social Credit stands for co-operative organizations paying taxes on the same basis as private enterprise organizations with which they compete."

The similarity of Mr. Low's language with that of the briefs of the business interests opposing the co-operatives, is too striking to be a coincidence.

The position taken by the people for whom the Regina Board of Trade speaks is understandable. Mr. Low's attitude is despicable. He knows that the reason for co-operative activity is for the co-operator to save the profits made out of his labor which now flow into the coffers of the corporations to whom he must sell his products and from whom he must buy the things he needs.

There is no discrimination against private business in the exemption of co-operatives from income tax. Co-operatives are a way of increasing the return for a farmer's labor. This is done by farmers co-operating to do for themselves some of the things they paid others to do for them. If in doing this they increase their own individual incomes so that they are taxable, they do, and of course should, pay income taxes. But it is destructive of the very purpose of co-operatives to tax, before they are distributed, the savings effected by co-operative efforts.

Solon Low knows this. He knows that the drive to tax the co-operatives is being carried on by Canadian corporations whose continued exploitation of the primary producers is being threatened. And because the national Social Credit leader knows all this his echoing of the language of the business interests in their attack on the co-operatives is entirely inexcusable.

THE SEED GRAIN DISPUTE

THE whole story of the Saskatchewan seed grain dispute is being purposely obscured by those who wish to discredit the C.C.F. government. But there is no doubt about the situation in the minds of Saskatchewan farmers.

In 1937 there was a province-wide drought in Saskatchewan. In many areas the farmers did not reap a bushel of wheat. There was scarcely enough grain in the province to provide seed for 1938. In spite of this the federal government permitted the elevators to be almost emptied.

If the farmers were to sow a crop in 1938 they had to get seed. This was obtained through the municipalities from money advanced by the banks with the province and the Dominion as guarantors. The price paid averaged about \$1.45 per bushel, an extortionate price in view of the fact that the price of No. 1 Northern at Ft. William on November 1st, 1938, was 58 cents per bushel.

The United Farmers of Canada and the Saskatchewan municipalities have been contending since that time that because the 1938 situation was the result of a national calamity over which the farmers nor the province had any control, it would be reasonable to cancel 50% of the farmers' debt, or at least allow him to pay on the basis of bushel for bushel.

What the provincial government has been trying to do is to get the federal government which is now the sole creditor, to cancel 50% of the farmers' debt (which was contracted by being compelled to pay twice as much as the seed was worth). The province agreed to assume the responsibility for the collection of 50% of the debt and to pay it in cash, in spite of the fact that the 1938 drought was a national calamity. It asked the federal government to assume the other half. When the federal government refused to accept this suggestion the province agreed to give the federal government treasury notes for the whole amount. That has also been refused.

THE THIRD COLUMN

Only very moderate rejoicings over the sound defeat for the C.C.F. candidate in the North Grey by-election are justified. Neither that defeat nor the defeat of socialist candidates in municipal elections can wisely be read as evidence that Canada is clear of the danger of a socialist revolution. So long as Canada is to fight for a victorious peace at home and abroad with party government, we are faced with the peril of Liberals and Conservatives who agree on all fundamentals) fighting each other and opening the way for the C.C.F.

The country's absorption in the war is complete, but the peculiar anomalies of English life and English character, political and otherwise, persist. The taxi driver who took me to see Harold Laski knew about him. "Oh, yes, Professor Laski," he said possessively. "I am Labor and I think I'll get in at the next election. Clever man, Professor Laski. Churchill likes him." Laski was amused by this when I told him, as well as by another remark I quoted to him, made by an American when the New York Times carried a story that the Laski household had been bombed during the night. Laski, the Times related, had been knocked out of bed, had fallen down several flights of stairs, and waked up. "He must be a light sleeper," said the American.—Article on War-time London in the New Yorker.

The Financial Post's weekly survey feature asked the following question for the December 9th issue:

"What means would you suggest for having the post-war immigration question handled in informed and judicial manner insulated from sectional, occupational, political and other influences?"

You may not believe it, but here is the answer of Thornton Purkis who is described as an "Advertising Counsellor" from Toronto:

"Give the job to the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National. (CPR did it successfully in Canada's greatest immigration period, 1900 to 1913.) Have them assisted by men from each province, representing industry and agriculture. Advertise in countries from which immigrants are desired."

"Secure families with several young children and encourage young newly-weds to come. Prevent settlers congregating in groups or communities to perpetuate old-country habits. Oh dammit—give the job to the CPR. In the Eyes of the World CPR means Canada." CPR got results before. They will get results again, and no politics either!—News Comment.

Politically and economically, socialism simply represents the endeavor to put governments by the people and for the people into modern terms; but the socialist case will be ineffective so long as it continues to be dismissed as "radical agitation" or "Utopian idealism" on the one hand, and confused with communism on the other.

If socialism means a definite system or body of proposals, however, it also crystallizes a protest—against gross inequality of income and economic power, against poverty and thwarted and repressed human lives, against waste and inefficiency, against the inhumanity and social stupidity of exploitation and war.—Social Planning for Canada.

J. W. Diller, 11031-84th Ave., Edmonton, is the winner of last week's award for the best news item submitted to the Third Column.



WILLIAM IRVINE'S WEEKLY COMMENT

Back-Firing Propaganda

"MAKE This Your Canada and You'll Regret It" is the title of an article published in Saturday Night and reprinted in pamphlet form as propaganda against the C.C.F. This ill-begotten brain-child was fathered by one named W. S. Nestor. He was once the Secretary of the National party of New Zealand and is now doing research work for it. So his chief aim in life is to oppose the Labor Party of New Zealand. From the title of the pamphlet it might be gathered that the Labor government of New Zealand had "Made This Your New Zealand" and that the people did not like to own their country when they got it. But that is not what the pamphlet says, and God only knows what it means. For it is clear that the author did not know and will bet that you can't find out. For example Mr. Nestor writes: "After nine years of Socialist government, private enterprise in New Zealand is still paramount, nor does there appear to be any likelihood that within the near future, at any rate, state enterprise will operate in more than a fraction of our industrial life." Then Mr. Nestor goes on to show that all the state industries that there are in New Zealand were introduced by conservative or right-wing governments and that with the exception of a truck garden the Labor Party has started none. It would seem then that what he probably was trying to say was that, "Private enterprise is paramount in New Zealand and the people are regretting it. Therefore, if you people in Canada keep private enterprise as we have done in New Zealand you will regret it too." At any rate for lack of coherence and logic this pamphlet back-fired. As to the facts about New Zealand we shall have to learn about them from a more reliable source.

Let the Other Fellow Own Your Canada

"MAKE This Your Canada" says Mr. Nestor, "and your experience will be bitter." Well our experience has been about as bitter as possible from 1913 to the present time Private enterprise during that time has given us two great wars. Sandwiched in between the wars was a depression 10 years thick. What does this man mean by "bitter"? Unemployment, ill-health through undernourishment, premature deaths to thousands, lack of nutrition, thousands of people homeless and crowding into slums, want, poverty, disease and ignorance as great as Mr. Nestor's stalking the country. Then on top of all this the hell of war. That is bitter enough to make it possible to go into the bitter business. The Russians made Russia theirs. And while they too have had to defend themselves against the attack of a power-drunk free private enterprise country, they escaped all the bitter experiences of Canadians during the great depression. The man who says "own your own country and your experience will be bitter", might just as well say, "own your own home and your experience will be bitter." We are not interested in what fools like that say anyway. We know that we will regret it and experience bitterness if we don't own our own country and our own homes. Those who own Canada now own our homes, our means of livelihood, our jobs, our bodies and souls and our breeches. We have had enough of that bitterness.

Low Rises High

HON. Solon Low is spreading it thick all over Canada. For him there are no enemies to fight in Canada, and that is the C.C.F. Gone are the days of the Big Shots.

They are now the friends of Mr. Low. They are probably paying his expenses as a reward for his attack on the C.C.F. But the people of Canada are not as foolish as Mr. Low would appear to believe. They may or may not intend to vote for the C.C.F., but they do know that it was not the C.C.F. which took the natural resources away from the people; that piled upon their backs a burden of private and public debt which they never can pay; that brought the great depression with its unemployment, its want, starvation, heartbreak and death. It is the system which brought these things that the C.C.F. is fighting. Mr. Low is fighting the C.C.F. The people will learn in time just where to place Mr. Low. He reminds me of a canary that sings like a culture. He is not dangerous. He only sings dangerously. Most of the time he is in the cage. But when he is allowed out it is a reward for his ability to sing like a culture. On such occasions he rises to great heights on the strong winds of his own mental indigestion.

To Pay the Big Shots

ALBERTA is going to pay all her debts. Thus spoke Mr. Low in Ontario where most of those who would be on the receiving end of Alberta debt payments live. Premier Manning has not yet confirmed the prognostications of his ex-minister. At any rate, we will be surprised if Mr. Low's promise to pay the Big Shots isn't fulfilled to a greater degree than his promises to the people of Alberta. Mr. Low and his associates were elected to create money sufficient to permit them to distribute \$25 a month to everybody; they were going to pay the debt by writing a cheque to themselves. Those miracles have not yet begun to happen. The Big Shots will insist on Mr. Low's paying the debts out of the people's taxes. It is passing strange that in recent months Mr. Low has been going a long piece out of his way to placate the Big Shots; to praise the profit system and to plead his inconsiderable support to free private enterprise. We think that Mr. Low is snuggling up beneath the comfortable wing of the real enemy of the people. Be that as it may, after having defaulted on every debt since coming into office 10 years ago, it is going to be a very difficult task indeed to make good his promise just made to the bondholders that he will collect from the people of Alberta the amount necessary to put this province in good standing with the financiers whom once he professed to hate, but with whom he now sleeps in comfort and in influence.

Too Late With Nothing

BY being about six years behind in solving Canadian problems the government has not only prepared the way for its own overthrow, but has prepared a great deal of trouble for the Canadian people. Now that the war is in its sixth year, and when most people have high hopes that its end is in sight, Mr. King is struggling with an unsolved manpower problem which should have been settled the very day that war was declared. This is just a typical case. Six years from now when Canada has a million unemployed and twice that many on relief, when the \$800,000,000 of public capital put into war industries will have been gobbled up by private enterprise, then our government will be beginning to try to think of post-war problems. Some governments have been known to arrive too late to do a little. Our government seldom if ever arrives at all, and if it does arrive, it arrives with nothing.

With the CCF Across Canada

MARITIMES

Representatives of 13,000 miners in District 26 of the United Mine Workers of America meeting in convention at New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, reaffirmed their support of the C.C.F. and rejected a "unity" resolution. The resolution on political action was issued by Local No. 4522, and asked that the convention go on record as favoring the election of a democratic coalition government in which organized labor would be directly represented and including all sections of Canadian people who stand for a democratic way of life. The policy committee moved non-concurrence in this resolution and this decision was ratified by the convention 59-12. Claire Gillis, C.C.F. member for Cape Breton South, said that "the C.C.F. has studied coalition, and it just isn't possible to unite two or three different programs and expect harmony. Compromise in politics as well as in fascism and capitalism doesn't work and won't get us anywhere."

SASKATCHEWAN

With five constituencies exceeding their quota in the Victory Fund Drive, Saskatchewan C.C.F. has raised a total of \$109,826.29. And the canvassers report, the surface is barely scratched.

Herschell Howell, M.L.A., who spoke in the government added school at Chitek recently, reported there is a great deal of favorable interest in the Larger School Unit at this point.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

At a meeting of the provincial council Feb. 3, Provincial Campaign Manager C. G. MacNeil reported that the one-quarter of the Victory Fund moneys raised to date which were allocated to the provincial campaign committee have been invested in campaign organization work. Approximately 200 public meetings had been held, he said and one-quarter of a million pieces of literature had been distributed. Effective progress had been made in systematic poll organization and canvass to gain support and funds. Three organizers have been in the field with excellent results. Campaign supplies had been furnished constituencies and reference material had been supplied to candidates.

The constituencies have raised 47 per cent of their Victory Campaign Fund for a total of \$37,669.70. The quota is \$80,000.

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Athabasca—John M. Wagner
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Bow River—J. H. Coldwell
Calgary East—P. N. R. Morrison.
Calgary West—Lt. Kenneth Tory.
Camrose—Flt.-Lt. Chester A. Ranning
Edmonton East—Ald. H. D. Ainlay
Edmonton West—Miss Mary R. Crawford
Jasper—Edson — P.O. Harry C. Irvine
Lethbridge—W. W. Scott
Macleod—O. E. Wobick
Medicine Hat—E. W. Smith
Peace River—I. V. Macklin
Red Deer—A. E. MacLellan.
Vererville—Michael Tomyn
Wetaskiwin—Wilbert Stevens

(Clip above list and send overseas so that the men in the services may become familiar with the name of the C.C.F. candidate in their home constituency.)

114 Jobless

(Continued from Page One)
oil blacklist the products of these firms. It was pointed out by what action would be taken by the Medicine Hat Council; the Calgary Council would then act.

A request from Alderman Rose Wilkinson asking for support to close the Relief Office was turned down. It was pointed out by Secretary Cushing that various social services were handled by this office and that Mrs. Wilkinson's request made no provision for them.

Poor Sanitary Facilities

The Labor Council's publicizing of unhappy conditions in sanitary facilities, rest rooms and cloak rooms for maids and orderlies at the General Hospital brought rapid action on the part of those concerned, reported the secretary. Within four days after the report appeared in the press, the General Hospital board met and investigated these conditions and a government representative, Mr. Pugh, of the Industrial Relations department, informed Mr. Cushing that steps would be taken immediately to see that the Hospital committee complied with government regulations.

Delegate L. Nelson suggested the Council investigate wages of nurses in training, reported to be \$5.00 a month. It was pointed out that most apprentices are paid on a reasonable hourly wage.

Transportation Changes

All members of the Council were requested to be at the next meeting, February 23, when E. O. Pinnell of the Electrical Workers will present a brief on the proposed changes in transportation in Calgary, from street railway to buses.

"This matter is vital to every worker in Calgary. If the city buys considerably less electricity, the power rates in our homes may be affected. We will have to face this problem very soon," stated Mr. P. W. Keyte, of the Electrical Workers.

"The City," a film on housing and town planning, will be sponsored by the Council at the end of February.

Profits Soar For

The Midland Bank

LONDON, Eng.—Midland Bank profits for 1944 have passed the £2,000,000 mark for the first time since 1939.

The figure is £2,038,274 against £1,984,396 for 1943. Dividend is maintained at 16 per cent.

Westminster Bank profits are £1,366,907 compared with £1,347,816. Dividend remains 18 per cent on the 24 shares, and 12½ per cent on the stock.

"Big Five" aggregate profits for the year are 4.1 per cent higher at £5,004,002—a new war peak.

CALGARY WOMEN HEAR REVIEW OF EDGAR SNOW BOOK

CALGARY—Mrs. H. D. Cartwright's review of Edgar Snow's book, "People on Our Side," was greatly appreciated by the Calgary C.C.F. Women's Council at its February meeting held recently. She dealt principally with the chapter on Russia, and Edgar Snow found answers to many of the questions which are so often raised. She described him as "a real authority on the countries of which he writes because, as Quentin Reynolds has said, 'he goes to the people rather than to high personages for his impressions.'"

To the staggering question, "Why did the German army go so far and then be forced back?" and "why was the young army at Stalingrad not defeated?" Mr. Snow finds answer in that thing which we call morale, a condition of mind in which there is no conflict between fears and duty. The Red army was well fed and clothed, Mr. Snow discovered, because of collective farming, because of the loyal and willing sacrifices of the civilians. "Their stand at Stalingrad saved us as well as themselves, and at a time when our supplies were not reaching them, but were being destroyed at sea." Mr. Snow feels that after the war Russia wants a peace of fifty years in which to develop her plans for the Russian masses, and as she is skeptical of the ability of the nation to establish collective security, she will in the meantime look after her own regional security.

Mrs. Cartwright's skillful handling of this book earned much applause, and the wish of all present that she will favor the Council on another occasion.

Mrs. J. A. Johnson, who presided, paid a feeling and appropriate tribute to the life of Mr. Robert Gardiner, the late president of the U.F.A.

The Council will hold a Tea on St. Patrick's Day, and a lovely comfort will be ready to be raffled.

On February 23, a meeting will be held to scrutinize and discuss Mr. M. J. Coldwell's presidential address at the recent national convention. It is being planned so that a number will take part in the reading and discussion.—E.P.

Coldwell Is

(Continued from Page One)

Taken in conjunction with the Financial Survey of May, 1944, it emphasizes the fact that the plans of private enterprise and of the Government will be totally inadequate to serve the nation's needs.

"Evidently the Minister of Finance had the Government survey in mind when at Winnipeg on January 16 he expressed a hope for what he called 'high' employment in place of 'full' employment for which the people have a right to ask.

Deplores Secrecy

"I declare that secrecy in this case is entirely unjustified except to assist the Government in hiding its own lack of plans and the certainty that private enterprise will fail to provide work after victory.

"In my opinion it is essential that the nation know fully what the post-war prospects are for Canadians in and out of uniform. Only if we have full knowledge shall we be able to take the steps which may be necessary to ensure full employment after the war.

"I therefore protest against the secrecy which the Government has imposed on the employment survey, and urge the Government to make it available to our people without delay.

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DR. BAY TELLS OF C.C.F. HEALTH PLAN

SPRING DANCE FEB. 27

CALGARY—"Socialized medicine was preferable to any scheme of health insurance. The only difference between our present health services and health insurance is the method of financing," stated Dr. M. Bay, when he addressed a meeting of the C.C.F. membership at the Labor Temple, February 7.

Under the plan for health insurance there was no provision for training of new personnel and preventative medicine was not stressed. Further, good health cannot be separated from economic factors, such as housing and nutritive food.

One lucky member of the C.C.F. will soon be the owner of a beautiful pedigree golden cocker spaniel pup, donated to the C.C.F. by Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Elliott. This pup will be drawn for at a date to be announced later.

Mrs. Kenn Tory, social convener, announced the date of the C.C.F. Spring dance, February 27, at Penley's Dancing Academy. Every member will receive four tickets. It is hoped that members will do their best to sell these tickets. A \$50.00 war bond will be the door prize.

Under the convensorship of Mrs. J. A. Johnson, tea was served.

RADIO FUND

(Continued from Page One)

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The Battle of the CO-OPERATIVES

By P. N. R. MORRISON
President Calgary C.C.F. Constitu-
ency Association and C.C.F. Can-
didate for Calgary East

THE co-operative movement of Canada is now engaged in a struggle for survival. Big Business has launched a powerful attack on the Wheat Pools. The destruction of this most powerful of all farm co-operatives will herald the downfall of every co-operative in Canada. Since this assault is a direct attack on the farmer's standard of living, it is of urgent concern to all workers—urban or rural. We live in an agricultural economy. Our city welfare is fastened to farm prosperity. When the farmer is well off his good fortune is reflected in the city by full employment and high wages.

The farm co-operative movement was forced on the farming community by big business which has always ruled Canada. The creed of monopoly enterprise has forced many depressions on Canada. In fact, almost half of the last sixty years in Canada have been years of desperate depression. In those years the farmer was faced with complete annihilation. He had to think, to act or perish. He chose to think and to act. As a result the farm co-operatives were organized. He chose the co-operative road to economic democracy. In spite of the old line parties the farmer opened the way to democracy of ownership, democracy of management. Collectively the farmers began to sell to themselves at cost.

The co-operatives of Western Canada have a proud record. The Wheat Pools, for example, have cut storage charges in half. They have reduced handling costs, they reduced the spread between carload lots and single loads by as much as five cents. This enterprise alone has placed millions of dollars in the pockets of Western farmers. Last year the activity of the co-operative wheat pools placed an extra ten million dollars in the pockets of Western farmers by the single act of reducing storage charges by two cents per bushel. Practically every dollar of this money has found its way to the towns and cities of the west and has been the very basis of the existence of our urban workers.

Showed the Way
When disaster struck the grain trade in 1929 and 1930 these same co-operatives spent \$22,000,000 to help stabilize the grain price. But for the pools the price of wheat would have fallen to a possible four or five cents per bushel. In other wheat countries the cost of stabilization was borne by governments. The Canadian Wheat Pools absorbed the cost, the terrible impact of the depression. The

splendid example induced the government of Canada to undertake a wheat price stabilization policy.

Present, Past and Future

Such co-operatives make no profits. They do keep a small overcharge—which after a period is returned to the farmers. They found this to be necessary during the depression. For example, the Wheat Pool risked its whole existence on the necessary stabilization of wheat prices. At the most dangerous period of crisis the chartered banks of Canada were anxious to liquidate the pools, to force them to sell out to their grain trade competitors. Since that period the co-operatives have attempted to build a surplus to provide their own financing through periods of recession. Once the danger has passed, such surpluses are returned to the farmers. These direct over-charges on the farmers, big business now hopes to tax . . . not only in the present and in the future . . . but for years past. They want to assess such a gigantic burden as will destroy the pools. If the pools are destroyed the same method can be used to liquidate every co-operative in Canada.

The Co-op Enemies

The farmers of Canada, and their families, have toiled unrelentingly for victory. Old men have gone back to the plow to let their sons offer their lives for a better world, a new social order. Big business and its servants, are determined to prevent any new social order and to root out its beginnings in the co-operative movement of Canada.

The farmers of Alberta should ask—"Who are the enemies of co-operative enterprise?"

Here they are:
The gamblers of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange.
The Conservative Party of Canada.

The Liberal machine.
The Social Credit government in Edmonton.
Here is the evidence against each.

The Evidence

The gamblers of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange have won millions by manipulating the price of wheat and gambling on the very living of our farm community. Price stabilization has shut them off from an easy living. They justly blame the co-operative pools. Their solicitor, and their brains, Mr. Isaac Pitblado, has been very close to the Liberal machine . . . close, in fact, that the Liberal government chose him to defeat the wheat pool appeal against taxation of over-charges on the farmers.

The Tory party has joined the attack on farm co-operatives. The Tory party set up John Bracken to lure the farm vote. He failed miserably. The farmers remember



P. N. R. MORRISON

the depression. So now the Tory party is all out to make city people believe that the farmer is getting away with something at their expense. And so the Conservative M.L.A. from Winnipeg, G. S. Thorvaldson, is now set up as president of an organization attempting to set city people against the farm co-operatives. It is no accident that the Tory press, Tory financial contributors, and Tory personnel are backing this very costly attack from coast to coast.

The case against the Liberal machine is clear cut. The Liberals were the first government in Canadian history to subject temporary over-charges on farmers to taxation. It is not done in Britain. It is not even done in the United States.

For their attack on the pools the Liberal government chose Mr. Isaac Pitblado, solicitor of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, as counsel.

Whipping Post

And, now the Liberals have set up a Royal Commission as a whipping post for the farm co-operatives. This commission has become a publicity centre for the foes of economic democracy.

There may be a few farmers who think that the Social Credit government is behind the co-operative movement. Well, it is behind, but only to put a knife into the back of co-operative enterprise. Listen, farmers, the first suggestion that the Wheat Pools should be subject to tax on over-charges, on the farmers, came from Mr. R. S. Law, president of the United Grain Growers. The hostile attitude of that organization is very well known.

Yet the Alberta government chose the vice-president of the United Grain Growers to prepare and present its brief to the commission. Needless to say the vice-president of a company competing with the pools would not ask for the removal of destructive taxes upon his own competitor.

The government of Alberta made no objection to a tax imposition which will destroy every co-operative in Canada.

To Be Expected

This was to be expected. Last summer Social Credit leaders sold out for the support of big business. The bankers of Alberta got orders from headquarters to vote for Social Credit. Now it cannot and does not defend the co-operatives. Since Mr. P. V. Paynter, Social Credit leader in British Columbia, admitted on December 14 that negotiations and conferences have been held with the Conservatives, since Premier Manning's recent visit with that ultra-nationalistic Tory, Duplessis of Quebec, it is only reasonable to suppose that the Social Credit co-operative policy must hereafter conform to the Tory policy.

In all Canada only the C.C.F. stands in open defence of the co-operative movement. The present attack comes from Canada's vilest

reactionaries, the big monopolists who advised us to tighten our belts during the depression.

We see this attack as an attempt to wipe out the threat of economic democracy. Our 13,000 members in Alberta, our one million voters in Canada, stand with the co-operative movement to the bitter end. The C.C.F. is a powerful force in Canadian politics. We are ready to use this position to preserve and extend co-operative enterprise.

The Issue

The issue is now squarely before every co-operator. He must choose. On the one hand stands the old line parties and their new ally Social Credit, seeking big money from big business. There stands big business ready to invest its last dollar in the destruction of our co-operative movement. On the side of the people, in the city, and on the farm, stands the C.C.F. ready to invest its total future in a struggle to establish economic democracy. Here is a time for decision.

The choice is clear cut. The C.C.F. or destruction—that is the choice.

SASK. GOVERNMENT BUYS POWER PLANT

REGINA—The provincial government's program of industrialization has moved a step forward with purchase of the entire controlling stock of the Dominion Electric Power Ltd., at a price of about \$450,000. Announcing the deal, Natural Resources Minister J. L. Phelps said it was planned to extend the company's transmission lines across the southern part of the province. Construction work will get under way as soon as men and materials are available, while ratification of the purchase will have to be obtained at the session of the legislature opening February 15.

Operating staff will remain in charge of the company. Saskatchewan men, selected by the provincial government, will replace the present board of directors. Employees will be unaffected by the change of ownership.

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LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province

EDMONTON

Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America, No. 314—Meets second Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, F. R. Smart, 11216 65th Street; Vice-President, D. O. Roberts, 9611 93rd Avenue; Recording Secretary, J. E. Smith, 10747 76th Avenue; Shop Delegate, F. J. White, 11916 87th Street; Distributors' Delegate, F. R. Smart, 11216 65th Street; Secretary, J. Flower, 10852 75th Street, Phone 71937.

Carpenters and Joiners, No. 1325, United Brotherhood of—Meets first and third Friday, President, W. D. McAllister, 9548 87 Ave.; Vice-Pres., W. G. Stanton, 12065 94 St.; Fin. Sec., L. D. Pollock, 9228 87 St.; Sec. Chas. D. Blair, 10259 107 St.; Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 11832 95A St.; Conductor, R. J. McLean, 9212 102A Ave.; Warden, G. R. Frowse, 9513 109 Ave.; Trustee, J. H. Bennett, 11909 93 St.; D. R. Blair, 11826 98 St.; C. W. Bernard, 11828 87 St.

AUSTRALIA PAPERS HOSTILE TO LABOR

SYDNEY, Australia—Deceminded people in Australia and especially those with a keen appreciation of that which is fair and just, have been bitterly resentful of the fact recently that the daily newspapers of this country, in their hostility to Labor, are so meanly anti-Australian and prejudiced that, to find space for their attacks, they do not hesitate to relegate the war and the efforts of our gallant fighting men to positions of the meanest obscurity in their columns.

As a matter of fact, it frequently occurs that whilst columns and pages of rationed newsprint are devoted to the criticism of our Labor Government and to the publication of the indecencies of Hollywood and the film stars of the United States of America, not one solitary word appears regarding the fighting men of the nation who are battling in the jungles of the Pacific islands, on the high seas, and in the air, in a thousand desperate sorties for the preservation of our democracy and the security of our land.

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A Tribute To the Late Robert Gardiner, Past President of United Farmers of Alberta

By T. V. MACKLIN

Who served as a director under Mr. Gardiner for many years

IT MAY seem unusual that one farmer whose life has been spent in the North should attempt an appreciation of one who has lived in the south of the province. And yet the life and work of such a one as the late Robert Gardiner transcends the limits of time and space and makes him one with all who toil each day for their daily bread. It should seem reasonable that along with others even a farmer should attempt to pay tribute to the memory of a great farm leader who, through long years of service to those for whom he stood, was true and who "stood four-square to every wind that blew."

It is fitting also that we should review his life and work in order that we might get a sense of the direction which he wisely took, in the days which are now passed, in order that we might keep that same direction on out into the unknown uncharted expanse of the future.

Tolerance

Let us ask ourselves what were the qualities which made his life of such great value to his fellow man? And we think of tolerance. Tolerance is very rare and the late Robert Gardiner had it. The course of a rowboat to reach its harbor demands that both oars be used. The flight of a bird to its nest demands that both wings be used. And it does seem also that in every movement of humanity toward a higher and a better life, there is need for the continued and unhindered activity of both the left and right wings of the movement.

As we look back through the years that are passed it appears that the late Robert Gardiner as a wise leader gave due regard both to those who wanted to go too fast and to those who wanted to go



THE LATE ROBERT GARDINER

too slow. There are those who in the excitement of a clear vision of something better in the future, forget to carry along even the good things out of the past. There are those who have no vision for the future, only fear, and who cling to the past with its good and evil.

Against Sham

Our late farm leader of Alberta had tolerance for both the venturesome and the fearful. His only intolerance was against sham, hypocrisy and falsehood.

Fearless Champion

He was an uncompromising and fearless champion of truth and economic justice.

Fought Beauharnois

Remember him as he led the fight against the investigation into the Beauharnois water power scandal. What motives prompted the courage and stimulated the energy of this tollown farmer to attack an organization defended by the keenest talent which unlimited money could buy? It was not ambition. It was not the love of fame. It was not money. For while hundreds of thousands were distributed to old party supporters by the promoters of the scheme, there was never even a hint that either he or the farmers' party got anything but scorn from the profiteers.

Member of "Ginger Group"

Remember him and the farm group called "The Ginger Group," which he led, as they together with J. S. Woodsworth and his little Labor group, battled for and won the fight for a restoration after the war of the lower western freight rates, which had been in effect before the war.

Challenge Financiers

Remember them as they fought and won the battles to get the thin edge of the wedge into the hitherto unchallenged dictatorship of Canadian kings of finance and of industry? They proposed the government inspection of banks. In the following year the idea was introduced and passed as a government measure. They fought for the right of the government instead of the banks to print the paper money—the government finally agreed to do it in the course of ten years.

If we take up the torch thrown to us by these men and also hold it high, we will see to it that the remaining 96 per cent of the medium of exchange, which is credit, will also be issued in the near future by the government, of the people, and revenue therefrom accrue as dividends to all the people and not as profits to a few shareholders.

Fought Sales Tax

Remember the late farm leader and his "Ginger Group" as they fought to eliminate such unfair taxes as the "sales tax" which multiplied the burdens of those who attempted to rear the new generation of coming Canadians? They

fought that taxation be placed on the backs of those who were most able to bear it, for taxes like the income tax on the excessive incomes of Canadian monopolists. They won in part, but this tax in some measure still hits the poor also.

Old Age Pension

Remember the little band of reformers as they fought and won for old age pensions? It was said by old party leaders that out of the youthful toil of those who could toil no more, there had resulted no millions out of which a pittance could be given back to them in their declining years. But the old parties got into a political jam and they found there was a little money for the aged of Canada. Elimination from the political scene was the reward of these pioneers of progress.

Time will not permit us to remember all the things for which these true knights of the farmers cause fought. Their political race was run, down the valley of an ever-deepening depression. It started just after the first post-war depression, struck the west in 1920, and ended in the hungry thirties when the unprecedented collapse of farm prices had driven even otherwise sensible men to political desperation.

Turned Down in 1935

Such men lacking the long years of hard study and deep thought given by Robert Gardiner to economic problems and goaded on by long and growing hardship and despair were driven in 1935 to drown these men and their leaders politically; to extinguish the torch which they had held on high.

Cause of Underprivileged

Almost immediately after that the work of President Roosevelt in priming the economic pump of this continent, the war preparations, and the war itself, with its total and global competition has temporarily given the old outworn competitive capitalistic system a new lease of life. But what of the future? What of "the morning after the night before?" It is for us, the living, to support the cause for which such men as Robert Gardiner "gave their last full measure of devotion." It is the cause of the underprivileged.

How did they get that way?

True to the Faith

Men and women too will tell you on every hand that they have no faith in politicians. They will point the fingers of despair at innumerable political leaders who started out as champions of the common people and fighters for fair play. They will point to 65 progressives elected to Ottawa in 1921 whose leaders and followers drifted away into the ranks of the exploiters. That may be true but we point to the "Ginger Group" and their leader who was ever true to the faith which his fellow toilers placed in him. There are few of earth's heroes of whom it can be more truly said that "He fought a good fight, he finished the course. He kept the faith."

Why did that small Alberta group in Ottawa stand steadfast? The explanation may partly lie in the continued activity of an alert organization of farmer supporters behind them. It may partly lie in the 16 years of leadership given by the late Henry Wise Wood before them. He preached for years the doctrine of "Economic group government." He pictured the farmers to themselves as a distinct economic group who must organize and fight for their rights in Ottawa and elsewhere as the bankers, manufacturers and others had done. We see the original idea of the "economic group" revived in the resolution of the last convention calling for a "Farm Block" in Ottawa.

Faith and Honesty Within

The unprecedented loyalty of these Alberta leaders to their or-

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CFCN—Monday, 10:15 p. m.

CJOC—Thursday, 10:15 p. m.

CJCA—Friday, 10:15 p. m.

February 23, John M. Wagner, C.C.F. Candidate for Athabasca.

iginal supporters may have been due in part to influences from without, but we know that the most dependable springs of sustained and noble action are the power of faith and honesty within.

We can readily think of the late Robert Gardiner when we recall the fact that "an honest man is the noblest work of God."

Memorial Scholarship

We are glad that the recent U. F. A. convention suggested and passed the proposition of a Robert Gardiner memorial fund, to give opportunity of study and research to worthy youth who are capable of deep study and thought.

We the farmers of Alberta, with our limitations of time and opportunity, did not gather in a great concourse to follow the bier of our late leader to its last resting place, but our memories will follow his life and labors on our behalf, and we believe that our lives can safely follow his example, as we think of one of "those immortal dead who live again in lives made better by their presence." "In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars, and with their mild persistence urge man's search to vaster issues so to live is heaven to make undying music in the world."

A Bit of Nonsense

"See here," said the missionary to the African chief, "it is wrong to have more than one wife. Tell all your wives except one that they can no longer look upon you as their husband."

After a moment's reflection, the chief replied: "You tell them!"

St. Peter: "How did you get up here?"

Latest Arrival: "Flu."

I wish I were a little egg,
Away up in a tree;
A-sitting in my little nest
As bad as I could be.
I wish that you would come along
And stand beneath that tree;
Then I would up and burst myself
And spatter Thee with Me!

"I see," remarked young Mr. Brown, "that a man who speaks six languages has just married a woman who speaks three."

"That," replied long-wedded Mr. Jones, "seems to be about the right handicap."

She: "It says here, 'Germans driven back into Italy!'"

He: "Well, that's good news."

She: "It's a downright shame. Why don't they make them walk?"

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LET IT BE SAID

THOSE who have followed the reports of the hearings of the Royal Commission on taxation of co-operatives will have noticed over and over again the name of Mr. G. S. Thorvaldson, K. C. His name has appeared so frequently, wherever the commission has been sitting, that one would almost think he was a member of it. He has travelled with the commission all over Western Canada, and it is presumably his intention to continue travelling with them throughout the rest of Canada until they have concluded their hearings.

All this is more understandable when one remembers who Mr. Thorvaldson is and what his activities were prior to the appointment of the commission. He is a Winnipeg lawyer and a member of the Manitoba legislature. He is also president of the big business organization that is primarily responsible for the formation of the commission, the Income Taxpayers' Association. It was the highly organized pressure of this powerful group that led the government to waste the taxpayers' money by appointing an expensive commission to investigate an issue that is extremely simple: Whether co-operatives should pay income taxes on the savings of their members or not.

It is all very convenient. Mr. Thorvaldson, by travelling with the commission, is always on hand to tear to pieces any briefs submitted by co-operatives or others on their behalf. In between times he is free to make whatever flagrant statements about the "nefarious practices" of co-operatives he thinks he can get away with. He became highly annoyed when one of his wild charges was challenged before the commission in Regina on January 30th. His annoyance was so marked that it led the com-

Prosecution of the Co-operatives

By LORNE INGLE

mission chairman, Mr. Justice McDougall, to speak to Mr. Thorvaldson about "that chip . . . on your shoulder."

However, we do not object to Thorvaldson carrying chips on his shoulder or making wild statements. That is his right and his privilege. Short of contravening the Defence of Canada Regulations and the laws of libel and slander he can say anything he pleases.

We do, however, question his right to appear before the commission continuously. The government, or its commission, should have put a stop to this long ago. Any other organization gets only one opportunity to argue its case. It is thoroughly discussed, pro and con and then the commission moves on to hear the next case. But the Income Taxpayers' Association's man, Thorvaldson, is before the commission continuously, arguing the case over and over, and criticizing everyone else's. By what right, we would like to know, is he appearing before the commission in the role of a perpetual prosecutor? If his organization has a brief to submit, let them do so and get it over with. No limit is placed on the length of any submission they may wish to make. They can present their case as fully and completely as anyone else. But when it has been presented let them stand clear for the next.

One Other Matter

Mr. Thorvaldson is quite concerned, (or claims to be) about income taxes and any losses suffered by the Dominion treasury in respect thereto. We would like to know more about the income of the organization he represents. Does the Income Taxpayers' Association pay income taxes? If not, why not? It seems to have unlimited amounts to spend in waging a campaign for the taxation of the "income" of co-operatives. There may be a considerable income here that is escaping taxation.

Presumably his revenue is made up of donations from the various corporations interested in its activities. Are these corporations allowed to deduct the donations they so make from the profits on which they are required to pay taxes? Then too, Mr. Thorvaldson's expenses in travelling around the country with the commission must amount to a goodly sum. Are these also a deduction exempt from income tax? These are interesting questions and if the Dominion government is truly concerned about income taxes me thinks that another Royal Commission might be appointed to investigate the income of the Income Taxpayers' Association.

Mike worked in a factory where they encouraged the staff to put forward ideas for the better working of the business.

One morning he was shown into the office of the manager, and announced that he had thought of a way of ensuring that none of the hands would be late in the future. "That sounds good," said the chairman. "How do you propose to do it?"

"Sure and that's aisy, sort," said Mike. "The last man in blows the whistle."

PERSONAL STUFF

Continued from page one

But they mustn't be given time to think. They must even be made to forget—to forget that the government to be elected may be dealing with war matters for only a short time; that it will be mostly a post-war government; that its chief task will be to find jobs for a couple of million Canadians.

And if we do forget that, and in doing so elect a Liberal or Conservative government on the conscription issue, it will be a sorry day for Canada. It was a Tory government that dragged us down into the worst and deepest depths of the depression; that gave unemployed young men the choice of the slave camps at twenty cents a day or starvation, and when they protested in their protests with tear-gas bombs. It was under the Mackenzie King government that the Great Depression began in 1929. It continued under that regime from 1935 to 1937, and there is no hope for Canadians in either of the two old parties. There is only the return of depressions and unemployment and poverty. But if they can make Canadians forget that; if they can get the people to decide election on the question of conscription, with the thought of the issue of post-war employment—well, the threat of democratic people's control of the economic affairs of the nation will have been turned back again.

That's the picture as it looks to me. It is not a matter of losing a by-election, or even the general election when it comes. What really matters is that if the general election is decided as Grey North was, with either of the old parties coming out on top, the prospect for the post-war period will be pretty grim. Most of the interests of which the two old parties are the political servants have warned us what to expect after the war. It is nonsense to talk about freedom from depressions, freedom from want, freedom from insecurity, and so on. And so it is if the people of Canada leave them and their political lackeys in control of the nation's affairs—if they elect a parliament of Tories of any political stripe. It was never as clear as it is now that the only way to prevent that is to elect a C.C.F. government.

Roper Demands

(Continued from Page One)

qualified to represent their comrades were declared ineligible.

"2. The method of voting was for the voter to write the name of one candidate on a ballot. This was almost certain to result in the elected candidate receiving a small minority of the votes cast. As a matter of fact the Army representative obtained 17% of the total vote, the Air Force candidate 21% and the Navy candidate 45%. If ever there was a place where the transferable vote should have been used this was it.

"3. The total vote was lamentably small, indicating poor election organization.

Should Sit in the House

"It is to be hoped that some way may be found to permit Wing Cmdr. Colborne, Captain Prowse and CPO Ward to take their seats in the coming session, even if there should be some subsequent change in the representation. I am sure members of the legislature would be unanimous in taking any action necessary to make acts of the session legal, even if it were later found that persons voted in the House who had no legal right to do so.

"Because it is so important that the voice of the men in the services should be heard in the legislature Wing Cmdr. Colborne, Captain Prowse and CPO Ward should be given a seat in the coming session."

Joe: "My father's a doctor. I can be sick for nothing."

Percy: "Well, mine's a preacher —so I can be good for nothing."

YOUTH TOMORROW

BY THE CCYM.—THE YOUTH SECTION OF THE C.C.F.

Miss Barbara Davidson, Editor
Box 512, Edmonton

★
Guest Editorial by Irving Ornest,
Publicity Director, Edmonton
C.C.Y.M.

The latest U. S. Gallup Poll asked this question: "If you had a son would you like to see him go into politics as a life's work when he gets out of school?"

The replies: Yes—21 per cent; No—68 per cent; No Opinion—11 per cent.

Seven out of ten among those who said they wouldn't like to see their son enter politics gave one of the following reasons:

1. Politics are too crooked, unethical, corrupt.
2. Temptations are too great for even a good man.
3. Not much future in it; better jobs elsewhere.
4. Too precarious a way of earning a living.

The one in five willing to see

their sons enter politics have their reasons too. The two most often mentioned reasons:

1. There is great need for good and honest men in politics today.
2. Politics presents an opportunity to serve, to help mold future national and world policies.

I wonder how much the people who say politics are crooked are doing to make it on the level. Not much. And they deserve whatever they get.

The sad part of the story belongs to the small group who are alive to the responsibilities which they bear to society—that section of society which does its criticism constructively. The solution of "crooked, unethical" politics does not lie in steering clear of politics. It lies rather in a keen, intelligent interest in the affairs of our state.

For what else is politics than our every-day life? On the politics of our country rests the welfare of all our people.

Keeping Up With the C.C.Y.M.

CALGARY

Tickets are now ready for the coming draw. Two golden fleece blankets will be the prize for some lucky person.

The regular meeting of the Calgary Unit was held February 5, at the home of Dave Pearlman. A committee was chosen to plan for a C.C.Y.M. party. After the successful Christmas party everyone is looking forward to this event.

The feature of the evening was an interesting and informative address by Miss Todd, a C.C.F'er of Calgary and a school teacher. She spoke about her recent travels abroad. In 1938, Miss Todd travelled to European Russia with a party from the University of Columbia. And, listening to her, we travelled from Odessa, on the Black Sea, to Novorossisk. Then to Batum, Tiflis, to Rostov, on the Don River, on to Kiev and to Kharkov, the "Winnipeg" of Russia.

Rostov is the center of the Ukraine agricultural industry. Here collective farms are located. Miss Todd pointed out that if it were not for these collective farms the Russian armies would never have survived as they have.

What impressed our speaker most during her visit to the U.S.S.R. was the marvelous advancement in the education of that country. She said that the educational system there pointed to a more democratic U.S.S.R. The Russian children are being taught the importance of their rights and the importance of virtue and justice. Also she stated that cultural autonomy is complete and encouraged by the government. The U.S.S.R. has been able to unite many different nationalities, completely and successfully.

Refreshments were served and the meeting adjourned.—Dave Pearlman, Reporter.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan C.C.Y.M. is planning summer camps. With healthful, wholesome recreation becoming more and more a major part of C.C.Y.M. activity, summer camps will assume a new importance this year. It is hoped to make this the "campingest" year in C.C.Y.M. history.

NATIONAL OFFICE FOR CCYM

Space has been provided for the C.C.Y.M. in the C.C.F. offices at Ottawa. Our national president is now employed there on a full-time basis, carrying on C.C.Y.M. work and other C.C.F. and C.P.A. duties.

QUEBEC

"Jobs for Youth," is the theme of the C.C.Y.M. rally being held in Montreal. Doris French, national president will attend.

ONTARIO

From the Toronto Council a provisional C.C.Y.M. executive has been set up. They will assist the Youth Organizer, Miss Helen Marshall, to extend the C.C.Y.M. throughout Ontario. A provisional executive representing the new units outside Toronto will be formed later.

MARITIMES

Requests have been received at National C.C.Y.M. headquarters from Moncton and Saint John, N. B., and from various sources in Nova Scotia for information about the C.C.Y.M. Literature and letters have been sent out. A leadership school is planned in Nova Scotia for February 16 to 18, at which time it is hoped that C.C.Y.M. organization will be started in that province.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

At the C.C.F. provincial office in Vancouver, Stella Hansen spends part of her time on organizational correspondence for the C.C.Y.M.

MANITOBA

Manitoba has become a properly constituted provincial section, with a provisional provincial executive representing the two Winnipeg units. John Marshall was elected president of the new Manitoba section.

CCYM CONTACT

Prospective members are invited to write the CCYM Secretary, for information regarding the program of this Young People's Movement. Inquiries should be addressed to Mrs. Marjorie Brown, 11209 71 St., Edmonton. Phone 33775.

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